

Winnepesaukee has been shared with thousands of visitors thanks to the M/S *Mount Washington*.

The M/S *Mount Washington* is truly one of New Hampshire's greatest treasures and continues to be one of the state's leading tourist attractions in the Lakes Region and for Weirs Beach. The daily in season tours give visitors the chance to view firsthand the beauty and majesty of Lake Winnepesaukee. With the ability to hold 1250 passengers, the "*Mount*" has also been a popular venue for parties, weddings and various celebrations. Today Mount Washington Cruises is owned and operated by local individuals ensuring that this fine vessel and her operations maintain in New Hampshire and are run by New Hampshire's great citizens.

I congratulate the owners, officers and crew of the Mount Washington Cruises for their continued success and their dedication to maintain the great legacy of the M/S *Mount Washington* here in the Granite State. I wish you all the best for continued success in the future.

RECOGNIZING BISHOP T.D. JAKES

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bishop T.D. Jakes, senior pastor and evangelist at The Potter's House in Dallas. The Potter's House is not only a house of worship, but a global humanitarian organization with over 30,000 members, which Bishop Jakes has faithfully served for more than 15 years. As well as celebrating a career in service with over 35 years of ministry, Bishop Jakes also celebrates his 55th birthday this month.

During an event in his honor this month, Bishop Jakes was joined by various church members, celebrities, and dignitaries in Dallas for a spiritual celebration of his 35 years of accomplishments in the ministry. The event, titled "Triumphant Journey," highlighted Bishop Jakes' contributions to his congregants and supporters as a pastor, author, and husband.

Few people have the ability and the calling to lead such a great following into a life of devotion and compassion. Yet, Bishop Jakes has devoted his efforts in his commitment to helping the needy, and empowering the disillusioned. Through his ministerial work, Bishop Jakes has used his talents to unite tens of thousands of North Texans under a united spiritual cause. Harnessing the generosity of his congregation, Bishop Jakes continues to lead a commanding effort to better his community, and bring humanitarian assistance to other parts of the world.

Mr. Speaker, faith-based leaders and the powerful following they command serve as powerful tools in the furthering of altruism, and the building of strong communities. Bishop Jakes is a unifying force in North Texas, and his contributions to the faith-based community are undeniable. I commend Bishop Jakes for his leadership, and wish The Potter's House continued success in its pursuit of a better understanding of the faith.

A TRIBUTE TO COACH FINLEY READ

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly outstanding North Carolinian, Finley Read, of Lumberton, North Carolina. Coach Read has dedicated over twenty years coaching and administrative work Lumberton High School, which is my alma mater. Coach Read deserves to be honored here today for his tireless contribution to the community of Lumberton. I ask that you join me in recognizing his long and remarkable career.

Coach Read enrolled and graduated from NC State University, where he was active in the football program. His impressive record during this time was interrupted only to serve our country in the U.S. Army. After returning to Lumberton, Coach Read became a high school teacher and multi-sport coach for the Lumberton Pirates, where he remained for two decades. In addition to his role as an administrator, Coach Read has bettered his community in countless ways. Through his leadership in football, baseball, and basketball, Coach Read has touched the lives of many Lumberton High students. He has been quite influential in our community, where he is known for his integrity and kindness.

Recently, the loss of long-time colleague and close friend, Coach Alton "Turmey" Brooks, left a hole in the lives of Lumberton High School students. His passing galvanized the community to honor Coach Brooks, which in turn has reminded us of the quiet, humble integrity of Coach Finley Read. His award today from the community of Lumberton comes in the form of a pirate ship, in recognition of his winning leadership for the Lumberton Pirates. His friends, former colleagues, and students from all walks of life have come together to praise him for role as a successful mentor, devout Christian, loving husband, and dedicated father.

I have known Coach Read all of my life, and I have personally witnessed and experienced Coach Read's powerful and positive influence in many different settings—from teaching me and other youngsters how to swim at Woodside Pool when I was in the third grade, to his giving me the opportunity to serve as Manager of the Pirates baseball team while I was in high school, to my work with him as a fellow Elder in our home church, First Presbyterian, in Lumberton. Coach Read, his wife Ruth, and all of his children, Kathy, Carey, and Allison, are dear friends that my family and I have long-known and respected.

Mr. Speaker, Coach Finley Read has mentored students in Robeson County for decades. As Co-founder and Co-Chairman of the Congressional Caucus on Youth Sports, I especially appreciate the work Coach Finley Read has done to make our community a better and healthier place. I wish Coach Read and his family God's richest blessings, and I ask that you join me today in recognition of his impressive career.

RECOGNIZING BARBARA WILLIAMS-SKINNER

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Barbara Williams-Skinner, who is being honored by President Obama as a Champion for Change. Dr. Williams-Skinner is being commended for her dedication to addressing the needs of low-income men and boys.

Dr. Williams-Skinner has worked tirelessly through her organization, the Skinner Leadership Institute, to promote leadership building and evangelism. The organization prides itself in its holistic approach, which builds moral character, technical skills, and spiritual growth. Using this approach, the organization trains youth, ministry, and political leaders. Her work with young men, in particular, highlights the importance that she places on fatherhood within the family.

As former Executive Director of the Congressional Black Caucus, Dr. Williams-Skinner helped to coordinate the Congressional Black Caucus Prayer Breakfast, which today attracts leaders from across the Nation. Since 1992, she has worked through the Leadership Institute to empower the communities around her. She has helped to train up-and-coming leaders, many of whom are today the stalwarts of their communities. The Skinner Leadership Institute hosts bi-weekly prayer walks through the halls of Congress, and its African American Leadership seminars have helped to foster a sense of community among African American leaders. Dr. Williams-Skinner has also served as a board member of Operation Push, the Christian Community Development Association, and the Neighborhood Learning Center.

Mr. Speaker, the work of faith-based leaders should not go unnoticed. Dr. Williams-Skinner's commitment to cultivating spiritual maturity and public service has shaped leaders that help to reconcile the spiritual, moral, and technical needs of our country. These leaders will help build strong communities. Her work not only benefits today's leaders, but helps to secure leaders of the future. Her accomplishments and contributions to our Nation are indisputable. I applaud Dr. Williams-Skinner's leadership, and I wish her continued success with the Skinner Leadership Institute.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S BE- LOVED WENDELL GRIFFITH

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the life and service of Northwest Florida's beloved Wendell Griffith.

For nearly 25 years, Wendell Griffith was a constant presence on the campus of Northwest Florida State College. As a professor of United States and World History, Mr. Griffith